

Creating a plate calibration curve

When you create a plate calibration curve, you are asked to first choose a combination of device type, plate type, screening, and plate line. The combination is considered as a plate setup. To determine the behavior of a plate setup, you must image a plate control strip (such as the Kodak Image Control Strip test image) on a plate, and measure the resulting dot area values on the plate. In ColorFlow, you set up a flexographic plate and plate curves the same way as you set up an offset press plate.

1. Click the **Plate Curves** tab.
2. In the **Calibration Curves** section, click the **Add** button .
3. Select the desired **Device type**.
4. In the **Plate Types** list, select the plate type for which you are creating this plate setup.
If you need to add a plate type to the list:

- a. Click the **Edit** button .
- b. Click the **Add** button .
- c. Enter the plate type.

A plate type can be used in many plate setups for the same device type.

5. In the **Screening** list, select the screening for which you are creating this plate setup.
If you need to add a screening value to the list:

- a. Click the **Edit** button .
- b. Click the **Add** button .
- c. Enter the new screening value.

A screening value can be used in many plate setups. Screening values added here will be available everywhere the screening property for this device type appears.

6. In the **Plate Line** list, select the plate line for which you are creating this plate setup.
If you need to add a new plate line to the list:

- a. Click the **Edit** button .
- b. Click the **Add** button .
- c. Enter a name that describes your plate line.

A plate line represents a unique combination of platesetter and processing unit that can result in a variation in plating output. Different exposure characteristics of platesetters and variations in processor chemistry are two variables that can cause different plating output from a plate line. For example, if you have two platesetters that produce different outputs due to different imaging head characteristics, you can create two different plate lines named LotemFibreheadPlatesetter and MagnusThermalHeadPlatesetter to compensate for the differences; if you have only one platesetter and processor but the processor chemistry depletes during the week, you can create plate lines named ProcessorA-Monday_Chemistry and ProcessorA-Thursday_Chemistry.

7. Click **OK**.
8. Use your plate reader to measure the patches on the plate control strip. In the **Data** panel on the right, in the **Measured Plate Response** box, click the desired **Tint In** row and enter the measured plate response.

9. To modify the **Tint In** value, click **Tint Set** and make your changes.
10. Click **Apply**.